

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOGOTA 03091 051923Z

60

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 IO-10 ISO-00 AGR-05 CIAE-00 COME-00

INR-07 LAB-04 NSAE-00 SP-02 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIEP-01

FRB-03 OMB-01 SSO-00 PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 INRE-00

SS-15 NSC-05 NSCE-00 H-02 AID-05 /080 W

----- 010025

O 051844Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 7912

USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOGOTA 3091

GENEVA FOR PHELAN

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD CO

SUBJ: TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS COLLAPSE BECOMING MAJOR ISSUE

REF: BOGOTA 3090

1. REFTEL DESCRIBES US DEL'S ACCOUNT OF WHAT HAPPENED IN COLLAPSE OF TEXTILE TALKS. I TALKED TO MINISTER DEVELOPMENT THIS MORNING, AND HE INDICATED THAT HE ASTOUNDED AT WHAT HE SEES AS SWITCH BY US AT LAST MINIUTE AND HE FEELS FRIDAY LUNCHEON WHICH BROKE WOOL IMPASSE ESSENTIALLY MISLED HIM. HE INDICATED INDUSTRY FURIOUS AND WANTS TO ISSUE DECLARATION. HE STATED HE HAS TALKED TO PRESIDENT AND FOREIGN MINISTER AND THEY ARE VERY AGITATED. HE SAID LIEVANO WILL HAVE TO RAISE THIS TOPIC IN WASHINGTON.

2. I TOLD THE MINISTER THAT IF HE WAS IMPLYING BAD FAITH ON OUR PART, I COULD NOT ACCEPT THAT. AFTER I EXPLAINED OUR UNDERSTANDING OF THE SITUATION PER REFTEL AND LONG EXCHANGES, HE SAID HE DOES ACCEPT OUR GOOD FAITH (HE DARE NOT THINK OTHERWISE) AND THAT HE MUST CONCLUDE THERE WAS AN ASTOUNDING BREAK-DOWN  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 BOGOTA 03091 051923Z

OF COMMUNICATION. HE COULD ONLY CONCLUDE THAT THE BASIC

UNDERSTANDING THAT A DISCREPANCY REMAINED TO BE WORKED OUT MUST HAVE SEEMED SO OBVIOUS TO US DELEGATION IT NEVER THOUGHT TO EMPHASIZE IT. THE MINISTER SAID HE WAS GOING TO TALK TO THE PRESIDENT AGAIN AND WOULD CALL ME LATER IN THE DAY.

3. IT IS MY CONCLUSION AFTER THIS LONG CONVERSATION THAT THE PROBLEM IS AS FOLLOWS: THE STATISTICAL DISCREPANCY (CONFINED TO MAN-MADES) WAS DISCUSSED IN THE FIRST TWO OR THREE DAYS; IT WAS NOT REFERRED TO AGAIN UNTIL UNTIL THE FINAL MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING WAS DRAFTED. OUR SIDE ASSUMED THAT THE COLOMBIANS UNDERSTOOD THEAT PROBLEM REMAINED. AT THIS POINT, A CONFUSION MUST HAVE ENTERED, BECAUSE IN DISCUSSING POSSIBLE FORMULAE TO SETTLE THE WOOL PROBLEM WITH THE MINISTER, WMD IN PRIVATE DISCUSSION WITH DELEGATION HEAD GALEANO, OUR SIDE USED ILLUSTRATIVELY THE COLOMBIAN FIGURES WHEN TALKING ABOUT GLOBAL TOTALS. ALTHOUGH THE CAVEAT "WERE WE TO TAKE YOUR FIGURES" WAS USED IT MAY WELL HAVE NOT MADE AN IMPRINT. IN ANY CASE, IT APPARENTLY DID NOT WITH THE MINISTER AT THE KEY APRIL 4 LUNCHEON, BECAUSE HE HAD NOT PARTICIPATED IN THE TECHNICAL DISCUSSIONS. HE THEREFORE STATED TO ME THAT HE ASSUMED WHEN OUR DELEGATION USED, AS ILLUSTRATIVE, FIGURES BASED ON THEIR CALCULATION (52 MSG FOR MAN-MADES AND 114.8 FOR GLOBAL TOTALS) THAT THAT MEANT WE HAD ACCEPTED THEIR BASE.

4. I THINK A GENUINE MINUNDERSTANDING EXISTS ALL AROUND. IN ANY CASE, THE MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT CERTAINLY DID SINCERELY MISUNDERSTAND. UNFORTUNATELY THE CONCEPT THAT HE WAS MISLED-- EVEN THOUGH HE SAYS IT MAY HAVE BEEN BECAUSE OF AN HONEST BREAKDOWN IN COMMUNICATION--IS THE UNDERSTANDING THAT THE PRESIDENT AND THE FOREIGN MINISTER HAVE. THERE IS ABSOLUTE CERTAINLY THAT LIEVANO IS GOING TO BRING THIS UP IN WASHINGTON.

5. I EXPECT TO HAVE FURTHER INDICATION OF GOC SUGGESTIONS LATER IN DAY BUT AT THIS POINT I DOUBT THERE IS ANY REAL ALTERNATIVE TO REOPENING NEGOTIATIONS SOONEST WITH AN IMMEDIATE FIRST AIM OF CLARIFYING THE STATISTICS. TO IMPOSE ARTICLE 3 IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES WOULD BE DISASTROUS. I SEE ABSOLUTELY NO HOPE THAT THEY WILL INITIAL THE PRESENTLY DRAFTED MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 BOGOTA 03091 051923Z

6. I THINK THE SITUATION IS SERIOUS. MISINTERPRETATION OF WHAT HAPPENED EXISTS AND MAY WELL GET EXAGGERATED BY RUMOR. AT LEAST SOME ADVERSE PUBLICITY AND CHARGES OF BAD FAITH MAY OCCUR. LIEVANO WILL SURELY MAKE IT A MAJOR ISSUE. IN VIEW OF ALL THIS, I SUGGEST MIKE SMITH RETURN TO WASHINGTON IMMEDIATELY TO BRIEF RELEVANT OFFICERS AND HELP DEAL WITH THIS PROBLEM. VAKY

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TEXTILES, NEGOTIATIONS, MEETING PROCEEDINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 05 APR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** greeneet  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BOGOTA03091  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750119-0046  
**From:** BOGOTA  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750478/aaaactlw.tel  
**Line Count:** 115  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 3  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BOGOTA 3090  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** greeneet  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 23 JUN 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <23 JUN 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 OCT 2003 by greeneet>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
05 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** TEXTILE NEGOTIATIONS COLLAPSE BECOMING MAJOR ISSUE  
**TAGS:** ETRD, CO, US  
**To:** STATE GENEVA  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006